

## SUBCHAPTER C—THE NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE SYSTEM

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AUTHORITY: 16 U.S.C. 460k, 664, 668dd, 715i, and 3901 *et seq.*

SOURCE: 41 FR 9166, Mar. 3, 1976, unless otherwise noted.

#### Subpart A—Introduction

##### § 25.11 Purpose of regulations.

(a) The regulations in this subchapter govern general administration of national wildlife refuges, public notice of changes in U.S. Fish and Wild-

life Service policy regarding refuges, issuance of permits required on refuges, and other administrative aspects involving the management of various units of the National Wildlife Refuge System. These regulations apply to areas of land and water held by the United States in fee title and to property interests in such land and water in less than fee, including but not limited to easements. For areas held in less than fee, these regulations apply only to the extent that the property interest held by the United States may be affected.

(b) All national wildlife refuges are maintained for the primary purpose of developing a national program of wildlife and ecological conservation and rehabilitation. These refuges are established for the restoration, preservation, development and management of wildlife and wildlands habitat; for the protection and preservation of endangered or threatened species and their habitat; and for the management of wildlife and wildlands to obtain the maximum benefits from these resources.

[41 FR 9166, Mar. 3, 1976, as amended at 51 FR 7574, Mar. 5, 1986]

##### § 25.12 Definitions.

(a) As used in the rules and regulations in this subchapter:

*Authorized official* means any Federal, State or local official empowered to enforce provisions of this subchapter C.

*Big game* means large game animals, including moose, elk, caribou, reindeer, musk ox, deer, bighorn sheep, mountain goat, pronghorn, bear, and pecary, or such species as the separate States may so classify within their boundaries.

*Coordination area* means a wildlife management area that has been withdrawn from the public domain or acquired by the Federal Government and subsequently made available to a State by cooperative agreement between the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the State fish and wildlife agency pursuant to the Act of March 10, 1934 (16 U.S.C. 661–666c: 48 Stat. 401), as amended; or

by long-term leases or agreements pursuant to the Bankhead-Jones Farm Tenant Act (50 Stat. 525), as amended. Coordination areas are managed by the States but are a part of the National Wildlife Refuge System.

*Easement* means a less than fee interest in land or water acquired and administered by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service for the purpose of maintaining fish and wildlife habitat.

*Migratory bird* means and refers to those species of birds listed under § 10.13 of this chapter.

*National wildlife refuge* means any area of the National Wildlife Refuge System, except coordination areas.

*National Wildlife Refuge System* means all lands, waters, and interests therein administered by the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service as wildlife refuges, wildlife ranges, wildlife management areas, waterfowl production areas, and other areas for the protection and conservation of fish and wildlife including those that are threatened with extinction.

*Nontoxic shot* means steel shot or other shot approved pursuant to 50 CFR 20.134.

*Waterfowl production area* means any wetland or pothole area acquired pursuant to section 4(c) of the amended Migratory Bird Hunting Stamp Act (72 Stat. 487; 16 U.S.C. 718d(c)), owned or controlled by the United States and administered by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service as a part of the National Wildlife Refuge System.

*Wildlife management area* means a general term used in describing a variety of areas that are managed for wildlife purposes which may be included in the National Wildlife Refuge System.

(b) Unless otherwise stated the definitions found in 50 CFR 10.12 also apply to all of subchapter C of this title 50.

[41 FR 9166, Mar. 3, 1976, as amended at 51 FR 7574, Mar. 5, 1986; 60 FR 62040, Dec. 4, 1995]

#### **§ 25.13 Other applicable laws.**

Nothing in this subchapter shall be construed to relieve a person from any other applicable requirements imposed by a local ordinance or by a statute or regulation of any State or of the United States.

### **Subpart B—Administrative Provisions**

#### **§ 25.21 Closing national wildlife refuges.**

Once opened, all or any part of a national wildlife refuge may be closed to public access and use in accordance with the provisions in § 25.31, without advance notice, in the event of an emergency endangering life or property or to protect the resources of the area.

#### **§ 25.22 Lost and found articles.**

Lost articles or money found on a national wildlife refuge are to be immediately turned in to the nearest refuge office.

#### **§ 25.23 General regulations and information collection requirements.**

The information collection requirements contained in subchapter C, parts 25, 32 and 33 have been approved by the Office of Management and Budget under 44 U.S.C. 3501 *et seq.* and assigned clearance number 1018-0014. The information is being collected to assist the Service in administering these programs in accordance with statutory authorities which require that recreational uses be compatible with the primary purposes for which the areas were established. The information requested in the application form is required to obtain a benefit. The public reporting burden for the application form is estimated to average six minutes per response, including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments on the burden estimate or any other aspect of this form to the Information Collection Clearance Officer, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, MS 224 ARLSQ, Washington, DC 20240; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reduction Project (1018-0014), Washington, DC 20530.

[56 FR 66795, Dec. 26, 1991]

### **Subpart C—Public Notice**

#### **§ 25.31 General provisions.**

Whenever a particular public access, use or recreational activity of any type whatsoever, not otherwise expressly